



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Major Developments

Cat Cracker Shut at ExxonMobil's 348,500 b/d Beaumont Refinery in Texas Gasoline and Distillate Production Loss Estimated at 325,000 b/d

Production has been halted on the sole catalytic cracking unit at the refinery so that repair work of an unspecified nature can be performed. According to an unnamed source, the unit is anticipated to be back in service in two to three days. It is estimated that 225,000 b/d of gasoline and 100,000 b/d of distillate production will be lost during the outage.

Bloomberg News, 12:38 April 25, 2007

Electricity

PSEG's 1,159 MW Salem Nuke Unit 1 in New Jersey Shut April 24

Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) announced that it shut the unit during the night when water intake screens became clogged with marsh grass as a result of the recent storms which caused extremely high water levels and high tides. A company representative was unable to provide an estimate as to how long the outage would last.

Bloomberg News, 10:04 April 25, 2007

SCE's 525 MW Mountainview Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Shut April 24

Reuters, 08:29 April 25, 2007

Petroleum

Loss of Steam Shuts CCU at BP's 160,000 b/d Toledo Refinery in Ohio April 21

The unit shut due to a loss of steam. However, the unit remains offline because it was subsequently determined that the unit required additional maintenance. No estimate as to the length of the outage is available.

Bloomberg News, 09:36 April 25, 2007

Malfunction Shuts CCU at Sinclair's 70,300 b/d Tulsa Refinery in Oklahoma April 24

The catalytic cracking unit was shut down after a Monday power outage caused a malfunction in an electrostatic precipitator. The repairs will take about one week.

http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?articleID=070425_5_E1_spanc35155&breadcrumb=Fyi

Flaring Reported at Chevron's 270,000 b/d El Segundo Refinery in California April 25

According to a report filed with state regulators, an incident occurred at approximately 8:20 a.m. local time that led to emergency flaring of nitric oxide. There was no information concerning any impact on production.

Bloomberg News, 12:19 April 25, 2007

Vapor Recovery Unit Shut at Valero's 135,000 b/d Wilmington Refinery in California April 25

According to a report filed with state regulators, the unit was shut down because of a faulty compressor. A small amount of nitrogen oxides and sulfur oxides were flared as a result of the shut down.

Bloomberg News, 10:05 April 25, 2007

Four Major Oil Companies Agree to Cede Control of Orinoco Projects to Venezuela

Threatened with the total loss of their assets in Venezuela, Chevron, BP, Total, and Statoil signed an agreement on April 25 to begin turning over majority control of their oil exploration projects in the lucrative Orinoco River Basin to the Venezuelan government. ExxonMobil had previously signed such an agreement with Venezuela.

ConocoPhillips has yet to sign any agreement.

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070425/venezuela_oil.html?v=1

Expanded Oil Export Terminal Begins Testing Phase in Kuwait April 25

Kuwait National Petroleum Co. announced that two additional berths at its Mina al-Ahmadi refinery have entered the testing phase, which is expected to last approximately one month. The additional berths are designed to provide increased flexibility for exports. At full capacity, the refinery has a capacity of 466,000 b/d.

Bloomberg News, April 25, 2007

Natural Gas

Experts at Global LNG Conference Say LNG Supply Could be Bottleneck in Near Future, Not Ports, Ships, or Re-gasification Facilities

http://www.ogj.com/display_article/290755/7/ARTCL/none/none/LNG15:-Industry-must-clear-obstacles-to-new-supply/?dcmp=OGJ.Daily.Update

http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/gas/news_article.cfm?id=8181139

U.S. Rig Count Highest in 21 Years

According to the latest numbers available from Baker Hughes on the number of active drilling rigs, there were 1,769 rigs in operation as of the week ending April 20. This represents the highest number of active rigs since late January of 1986. More than 80 percent (1,473) of the rigs were involved with natural gas, 292 were looking for oil and 4 were doing miscellaneous work.

<http://www.bhinet.com/investor/rig/index.htm>

http://www.ogj.com/display_article/290542/7/ARTCL/none/none/US-rig-count-highest-in-21-years/?dcmp=OGJ.Daily.Update

Wyoming's Pinedale Gas Field Growth Surging

Wyoming's Pinedale gas field, which holds one of the largest reserves of natural gas in United States, has steadily increased output over the past year and expects to continue to do so in 2008. The field has over 4,800 drill locations. Each well is expected to return approximately 4 bcf.

http://www.ogj.com/display_article/290688/7/ARTCL/none/none/Wyoming's-Pinedale-gas-field-growth-surging/?dcmp=OGJ.Daily.Update

Other News

Progress Energy Installing Upgraded Sirens for Harris Nuke Plant in North Carolina

The new sirens, which were recently installed at the company's Brunswick nuke plant in North Carolina, have a battery back-up to ensure they will be operable in the event of a power outage lasting four days. The systems will also be installed during 2007 at Progress Energy's H.B. Robinson nuke plant in South Carolina and at the Crystal River nuke plant in Florida.

<http://www.electricnet.com/content/news/article.asp?docid=30ffc7b3-207c-470e-9fae-09924fe009d9&atc~c=771+s=773+r=001+l=a&VNETCOOKIE=NO>

NRC Proposes Assessing Aircraft Impact on New Nuclear Reactor Designs

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has proposed assessing aircraft crash resistance in new nuclear reactor designs. The agency is considering requiring new design applicants to "assess how the design, to the extent practicable, can have greater built-in protections to avoid or mitigate the effects of a large commercial aircraft impact," NRC said April 24. Text of a proposed rule will be available for public comment later this year. For more information on nuclear power plant protection see the NRC website below.

<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/7279070.xml?p=Nuclear/News&sub=Nuclear>

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/nation/terror/20070424-1435-reactors-aircraft.html>

<http://www.nrc.gov/security/faq-security-assess-nuc-pwr-plants.html>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices April 25, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	65.35	62.78	67.75
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	7.60	7.50	7.76

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Half of Johnson County in Arkansas Loses Power April 24 Due to Wind Storms

<http://www.kfsm.com/Global/story.asp?S=6422816>

About 20,000 Customers in Ontario Lose Power April 23 Due to Wind Storms

<http://www.thedailyobserver.ca/webapp/sitepages/content.asp?contentid=501170&catname=Local+News&classif=>

Groundbreaking on Black Sea (Sumsun) to Mediterranean (Ceyhan) Oil Pipeline April 24

http://www.energyintel.com/PublicationHomePage.asp?publication_id=31

EPA Starts Public Process of Examining California's Request to Limit Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Vehicles

Oil Daily, April 25, 2007

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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